AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims on the application. All claims are set forth below with one of the following annotations.

- (Original): Claim filed with the application.
- (Currently amended): Claim being amended in the current amendment paper.
- (Canceled): Claim cancelled or deleted from the application. No claim text is shown.
- (Withdrawn): Claim still in the application, but in a non-elected status.
- (New): Claim being added in the current amendment paper.
- (Previously presented): Claim added or amended in an earlier amendment paper.
- (Not entered): Claim presented in a previous amendment, but not entered or whose entry status unknown. No claim text is shown.

1. (Currently amended) A method in a first wireless station of a wireless network, the method comprising:

wirelessly transmitting a discovery message;

waiting for a settable time interval to wirelessly receive a configuration request message from a second wireless station within the settable time interval, the configuration request message being wirelessly transmitted by the second wireless station in response to the discovery message being wirelessly received by the second wireless station; and

in the case a configuration request message is received within the settable time interval, generating a configuration data message for the second wireless station including one or more configuration parameters for the second wireless station, and wirelessly transmitting the configuration data message to the second wireless station,

such that the second wireless station can be configured,

wherein the transmitting of the configuration message is after waiting for a backoff time interval, and

wherein the wirelessly transmitting the discovery message includes:

wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the first ~~method further comprises:~~

~~setting an~~ output RF power level ~~to~~ is a relatively low level ~~for the wirelessly transmitting of the discovery message~~,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the wirelessly transmitting a discovery message is in response to wirelessly receiving a command from a user.

6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the generating includes generating random numbers, and wherein configuration parameters includes a security key.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first wireless station is an access point (AP) of the wireless network, and the second wireless station is to be a client station of the AP.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the configuration parameters includes a security key.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A method in a first wireless station of a wireless network, the method comprising:

wirelessly receiving a discovery message transmitted by a second wireless station;

wirelessly transmitting a configuration request message in response to wirelessly receiving the discovery message;~~,~~

wirelessly receiving a configuration data message from a second wireless station, the configuration data message being transmitted by the second wireless station within a settable time interval in response to the second station

receiving the configuration request message and after the second station waits for a backoff time interval;

extracting one or more configuration parameters from the configuration data message; and

applying the one or more configuration parameters to the first wireless station to configure the first wireless station,

such that the first wireless station can be automatically configured,

wherein the transmitting of the discovery message by the second wireless station includes:

the second wireless station wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

the second wireless station waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received by the second wireless station within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

the second wireless station repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received by the second wireless station,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the first wireless station is configured only if a user selects the first wireless station to be configurable.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the wirelessly transmitting the configuration request message is in response to wirelessly receiving a command from a user.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the second wireless station is an access point (AP) of the wireless network, and the first wireless station is a client station of the AP.

17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the configuration parameters includes a security key.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.

20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer executable instructions that when executed by a processor in a first wireless station of a wireless network ~~to carry~~ cause carrying out a method in the first wireless station , the method comprising:

wirelessly transmitting a discovery message;

waiting for a settable time interval to wirelessly receive a configuration request message from a second wireless station within the settable time interval, the configuration request message being wirelessly transmitted by the second wireless station in response to the discovery message being wirelessly received by the second wireless station; and

in the case a configuration request message is received within the settable time interval, generating a configuration data message for the second wireless station including one or more configuration parameters for the second wireless

station, and wirelessly transmitting the configuration data message to the second wireless station,

such that the second wireless station can be configured,

wherein the transmitting of the configuration message is after waiting for a backoff time interval, and

wherein the wirelessly transmitting the discovery message includes:

wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium as recited in ~~claim 21~~ claim 20, wherein the ~~method further comprises:~~

~~setting an~~ first output RF power level ~~to~~ is a relatively low level ~~for the wirelessly transmitting of the discovery message~~,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 20, wherein the generating includes generating random numbers, and wherein configuration parameters includes a security key.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 20, wherein the first wireless station is an access point (AP) of the network, and the second wireless station is a client station of the AP.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 26, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer executable instructions that when executed by a processor in a first wireless station of a wireless network ~~to carry~~ cause carrying out a method in the first wireless station, the method comprising:

wirelessly receiving a discovery message transmitted by a second wireless station;

wirelessly transmitting a configuration request message in response to wirelessly receiving the discovery message;~~,~~

wirelessly receiving a configuration data message from a second wireless station, the configuration data message being transmitted by the second wireless station within a settable time interval in response to the second station receiving the configuration request message and after the second station waits for a backoff time interval;

extracting one or more configuration parameters from the configuration data message; and

applying the one or more configuration parameters to the first wireless station to configure the first wireless station,

such that the first wireless station can be automatically configured,

wherein the transmitting of the discovery message by the second wireless station includes:

the second wireless station wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

the second wireless station waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received by the second wireless station within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

the second wireless station repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received by the second wireless station,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein the first wireless station is configured only if a user selects the first wireless station to be configurable.

32. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein the wirelessly transmitting the configuration request message is in response to wirelessly receiving a command from a user.

33. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein the second wireless station is an access point (AP) of the wireless network, and the first wireless station is a client station of the AP.

34. ((Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 33, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

35. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 34, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.

36. (Currently amended) An apparatus in first a station of a wireless network, the apparatus comprising:

means for wirelessly receiving;

means for wirelessly transmitting; and

means for responding ~~waiting~~, including means for waiting, the means for waiting configured to wait for a settable time interval for the means for wirelessly receiving to receive ~~and~~, the means for responding configured to respond, after the settable time interval, to receiving a configuration request message from a second wireless, the means for responding including means for generating a configuration data message for the second wireless station including one or more configuration parameters for the second wireless station, and using the means for wirelessly transmitting to transmit the configuration data message to the second wireless station,

such that the second wireless station can be configured,

wherein the configuration request message is wirelessly transmitted by the second wireless station in response to the discovery message being wirelessly received by the second wireless station,

wherein the transmitting of the configuration message is after waiting for a backoff time interval, and

wherein the means for wirelessly transmitting the discovery message includes:

means for wirelessly transmitting a discovery message at a first output RF power level;

means for waiting for a configuration request message;

means for ascertaining whether no configuration request message has been wirelessly received within a period of time,

means responsive to the means for ascertaining for wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level if it is ascertained that no configuration request message has been receive within the period; and

means for repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received.

37. (Cancelled).

38. (Currently amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 37, wherein the ~~apparatus further comprises:~~

~~means for setting an~~ first output RF power level ~~to~~ is a relatively low level ~~for the wirelessly transmitting of the discovery message~~,

such that the range of reception of the transmitted configuration data message is limited.

39. (Cancelled).

40. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 36, wherein the generating includes generating random numbers, and wherein configuration parameters includes a security key.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 36, wherein the first wireless station is an access point (AP) of the wireless network, and the second wireless station is a client station of the AP.

42. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 41, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

43. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 42, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.

44. (Currently amended) An apparatus in first a station of a wireless network, the apparatus comprising:

a wireless transceiver coupled to an antenna and able to wirelessly transmit and wirelessly receive messages to and from another wireless station;

a processor coupled to the transceiver and configured to cause the wireless transceiver to wirelessly transmit a discovery message and to wait for a settable time interval to wirelessly receive a configuration request message from a second wireless station within the settable time interval, the configuration request message being wirelessly transmitted by the second wireless station in response to the discovery message being wirelessly received by the second wireless station,

in the case that a configuration request message is received from a second wireless station within a settable time period, the processor being further configured:

to generate a configuration data message for the second wireless station including one or more configuration parameters for the second wireless station; and

to cause the wireless transceiver to transmit the configuration data message to the second wireless station,

such that the second wireless station can be configured,

wherein the transmitting of the configuration message is after waiting for a backoff time interval, and

wherein the wirelessly transmitting the discovery message includes:

wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

45. (Currently amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 44, further comprising:

a variable attenuator between the antenna and the transceiver to limit the transmit power~~,~~

~~such that the transmit power may be limited~~.

46. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 44, the apparatus further comprising:

a display that communicates the status of the configuration sequence to a user.

47. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 44, the apparatus further comprises:

a user interface wherein the wirelessly transmitting the discovery message in response to the user interface wirelessly receiving a command from a user,

such that a user can initiate the configuration.

48. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 47, wherein the command includes one or more selectors, each selector corresponding to a set of configuration parameters, and wherein the generating a configuration data message includes configuration parameters from the set of configuration parameters corresponding to the selector.

49. (Currently amended) An apparatus in a first wireless station of a wireless network, the apparatus comprising:

means for wirelessly receiving;

means for wirelessly transmitting; and

means for responding configured to respond to ~~the means for wirelessly receiving~~ wirelessly receiving a configuration data message from a second wireless station, the responding to wirelessly receiving ~~a~~ the configuration data message including extracting one or more configuration parameters from the configuration data message, and applying the one or more configuration parameters to the first wireless station,

wherein the apparatus is configured such that the means for wirelessly transmitting transmits a configuration request message in response to wirelessly receiving a discovery message transmitted by the second wireless station, and wherein the configuration data message is transmitted by the second wireless station within a

settable time interval in response to the second station receiving the configuration request message after the second station waits for a backoff time interval,

such that the first wireless station can be configured,

wherein the transmitting of the discovery message by the second wireless station includes:

the second wireless station wirelessly transmitting the discovery message at a first output RF power level;

the second wireless station waiting for a configuration request message;

in the case that no configuration request message is wirelessly received by the second wireless station within a period of time, wirelessly re-transmitting the discovery message at a higher output RF power level; and

the second wireless station repeating such waiting and re-transmitting until either a maximum output RF power level has been reached, or a configuration request message has been wirelessly received by the second wireless station,

such that the range of reception of the wirelessly transmitted configuration data message is limited.

50. (Cancelled).

51. (Cancelled).

52. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 49, wherein the first wireless station is configured only if a user selects the first wireless station to be configurable.

53. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 49, wherein the wirelessly transmitting a configuration request message is in response to wirelessly receiving a command from a user.

54. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 49, wherein the second wireless station is an access point (AP) of the wireless network, and the first wireless station is a client station of the AP.

55. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 54, wherein the wireless network substantially conforms to one of the IEEE 802.11 standards or a derivative thereof.

56. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 55, wherein the configuration parameters includes a WEP key.